

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A vector comprising a gene encoding a fusion protein comprising (a) a first polypeptide and (b) a second polypeptide, wherein said first polypeptide comprises a ligand binding domain of a steroid hormone receptor that, upon ligand binding, dimerizes, and wherein said second polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the G-CSF extracellular domain has been deleted a ~~cytokine receptor~~ or a proliferation-inducing part thereof that, upon said dimerization of said first polypeptide, imparts proliferation activity to a cell.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): An isolated cell carrying the vector of Claim 5.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Previously presented): A vector comprising a desired exogenous gene and a gene encoding a fusion protein comprising (a) a first polypeptide and (b) a second

polypeptide, wherein said first polypeptide comprises a ligand binding domain of a steroid hormone receptor that, upon ligand binding, dimerizes, and wherein said second polypeptide comprises a cytokine receptor or a proliferation-inducing part thereof that, upon said dimerization of said first polypeptide, imparts proliferation activity to a cell.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The vector of Claim 8, wherein the cytokine receptor is a G-CSF receptor.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The vector of Claim 8, wherein the steroid hormone receptor is an estrogen receptor.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Previously presented): A vector system comprising a first vector comprising a desired exogenous gene and a second vector comprising a gene encoding a fusion protein comprising (a) a first polypeptide and (b) a second polypeptide, wherein

said first polypeptide comprises a ligand binding domain of a steroid hormone receptor that, upon ligand binding, dimerizes, and wherein said second polypeptide comprises a cytokine receptor or a proliferation-inducing part thereof that, upon said dimerization of said first polypeptide, imparts proliferation activity to a cell.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): An isolated cell carrying the vector according to any one of ~~claims 8 to 12~~, claims 8, 10, and 12.

Claim 16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Previously presented): A kit comprising (a) the vector of Claim 5 or Claim 8, and (b) a steroid hormone ligand capable of acting on the “ligand-binding domain” of the fusion protein encoded by the gene contained in the vector.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The vector system of claim 14, wherein said system is a binary vector system.

Claim 19 (Previously presented): An isolated cell carrying the vector system according to claim 14 or 18.